Appl. No. 10/689,390 Amdt. dated 11 August 2010 Reply to Office Action of 14 June 2010

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Interview Summary

Applicant thanks Examiner Jacob Petranek for the courtesy of the short telephone interview with Matthew W. Johnson (Reg. No. 59,108) on June 28, 2010. The interview discussed proposed claim amendments in view of the cited references. The remainder of this amendment further summarizes the interview.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

In paragraph 4 of the Office action, claims 1-6, 8-13, 15, 22-27, 29, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,081,700 to Crozier ("Crozier") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,338,129 to Pechanek et al. ("Pechanek").

In rejecting independent claims 1, 8, 22, and 36, the Office argues that FIG. 5 of Crozier discloses a plurality of shift operations between figures 5b-d amongst the individual rows and columns being shifted different amounts, where each figure shows a single shifting operation that is shifted in such a way that each location receives every data held in every position of the row/column. While the applicant does not concede the correctness of the Office's position, in the interest of expediting prosecution, independent claims 1, 8, 22, and 36 have been amended to recite a plurality of shifting operations by a plurality of rows or columns that result in each processing element in each row or column receiving data held in every other processing element in that row or column. This amendment is as suggested by the Office at page 16 of the Final Office Action and is supported throughout the application at issue including at paragraphs [0049]-[0065] and FIGS. 6A, 6B through 14A and 14B.

Because the office admits that Crozier at most only shows shifting operations along a single row or column, it is respectfully requested that the § 103(a) rejections of claims 1, 8, 22, and 36 be withdrawn.

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Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the instant application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-15, 22-29, and 36 is respectfully requested. If the examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is in condition for disposition other than through allowance, the examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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